

NYK BUILDING

TOKYO

11 November 1945

Dear Col. Marland:

We prepared for you today extracts from the journal for the week and included various enclosures received and issued by this office. I hope that this will give you a clear picture of our progress. Our account does not mention many of Commander Reierstad's activities; this does not mean that he has not been operating. He has already procured from NavTechJap 10 Navy linguists with whom he has been working at Yokosuka. It is his plan to exploit all of the easily accessible targets listed in the Navy Target Book. He has given us the use of one linguist whom we are sending to Kokubunji. Naturally since he has the linguists at hand and many Navy targets in our proximity are the most important in Japan, he will see to Navy interests. Fortunately ATIS personnel are definitely underway and by the time you receive this letter our people should be here, else the arrangement would threaten to be a Navy show.

As indicated in the journal, I have with Col. Wood's blessing seen as many men who will do the work in the field as I have been able to reach. I find that although directives may be sent out, though the G-2 may be well informed, the "loot" in the field with his Nisei assistants is not always apprised of decisions and agreements made "up there." In every case I have been gratefully received and have been promised hearty cooperation. Inventories have begun to come into the office today--sizeable lists and all from 8th Army units. So the activity has born some fruit.

The periodicals which we received yesterday have been about one-half completed. I have drawn up long lists of book titles, journals, periodicals, reviews, and annuals which I shall submit to Foreign Liaison within the next two or three days. I spent an afternoon at the Imperial University Library and from a librarian there, a Harvard graduate, I got the names of leading Japanese economists, historians, jurists, and scientists. The names which were given me will prove of some assistance in making intelligent selections.

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Once the two men get here whom we have ear-marked for this job, their paths will have been lubricated and they can carry on where I have left off. In addition to the University catalogues, I have found The Publishers' Annual very helpful.

I have read Major Stremlau's account of the ATIS billeting situation and I am afraid that when you read it, it will sound as though ATIS were using dilatory tactics. I assure you that this is not the case. I have ascertained to my satisfaction from Col. Doud's secretary that ATIS, as well as ourselves, was on the spot. Col. Mashbir may have spun a good yarn to the Major, but I don't think that too much credence should be put in some of the claims and accounts in Major Stremlau's letter. As for the necessity of having a full colonel here to help us in our difficulty, I take some exception to that statement. We have not experienced any difficulty more acute than the inconvenience of waiting and uncertainty, and that I believe is tantamount to being in the Army. I have not felt when facing unfamiliar and high ranking officers that my rank was to my disadvantage. Col. Wood, Col. Smith, et al whom I have seen, to whom

I have given information, and to whom I have gone for help, have proven most obliging and understanding. What we need, and I think that you came to the conclusion before departing, is an energetic and resourceful administrator who is more eager to get things done than make deals. There are many details in administration that should be attended to eight hours a day, and I have been at a disadvantage because my job does take me out of the office a good deal. However WDC is holding the threads, a bit slack here and there, but they are not dragging.

Billeting arrangements have been completed--and I fear some of the men will be in for a bit of a shock. The billets are billets. It is our plan to move men out as quickly as possible to field units, in order to relieve congestion in the NYK Building, and, of course, to get things on the road.

I had fine hunting last night in the building. It was evacuated yesterday by all GHQ officers and that gave me the opportunity to select a number of choice early Grand Rapids pieces for my room. It accomodates four, is very small, but enjoys much sunlight during the day, and boasts of a reading lamp and a fine dwarf tree by courtesy of some director of the NYK. I have not forgotten the office. On the safe is a lovely dwarfed walnut tree such as one we saw in Yoshida. It is trained over a sizeable piece of rock. On a book case is the pride and joy of WDC--a gnarled, weatherbeaten apple just beginning to sprout.

Last week I had several interesting evenings. One was spent in the British Embassy with Captain Cowan, some Navy, and Royal Marines. It was a delightful conversational evening. Although the British officers to a man have been in the service seven years, their intellectual life and their reading have not stopped, nor may I add, long week-ends, sport, and the amenities of civilized living. You will perhaps remember that a lady pianist named Inoue played with the Tokyo Symphony about three weeks ago. I had the good fortune to meet her through a student of mine who is in the Navy. She invited us to her home and were it not for yellow complexions and almond eyes, I would have said "Ann Arbor, Michigan." Her husband is an industrialist of considerable fortune. The home is "western style" including two Steinways. We had three uninterrupted hours of music. I believe that I played more than I have since entering the Army. Both husband and wife were educated in the States and in Germany and speak English and German very fluently. The association promises a pleasant respite.

I hope that you found your family in the very best of health and that you enjoy a pleasant Thanksgiving with them. It will be the first for you for a long time. I assume that Sarah is no longer trudging the mountains and has sought softer climes. I have not yet heard from her but hope for the "jack pot" soon. Please give my best regards to the boys at Pacmirs and accept my sincerest thanks for the privilege of accompanying you on this trip. I have enjoyed the association more than I can express and look forward to a continuation of it when this job is done.

Yours sincerely

*Atto*